

Message Text

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ACTION SY-05

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R 250857Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAMR

TO SECSTATE WJSHDC 9614

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FOR DEPUTY UNDERSECRETARY EAGLEBURGER

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: ASAC

SUBJECT: SECURITY PROTECTION AFFORDED PUBLIC ACCESS AREAS AT
OVERSEAS POSTS

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: OUR CANDID EVALUATION OF THIS EMBASSY'S ABILITY AT PRESENT LOCATION DEFEND ITSELF AGAINST TERRORIST ACTIVITY IS NOT SUCH AS TO LEAD TO OVER CONFIDENCE ON OUR PART. RECENTLY REQUESTED PHYSICAL IMPROVEMENTS WILL PROVIDE A MODICUM OF INCREASED PROTECTION. HOWEVER, AN EFFECTIVE DEFENSIVE POSTURE WITH GENUINE MEANS TO PREVENT ADVANCEMENT OF HOSTILE ELEMENTS INTO ANY PART OF OUR PREMISES WILL REGRETABLY BE DELAYED UNTIL OUR 1976 MOVE TO OTHER QUARTERS. REASONABLE SECURITY FOR DAR ES SALAAM WILL NOT COME CHEAP. WE HOPE FOR THE DEPARTMENT'S FULL SUPPORT IN A FEW WEEKS WHEN WE SUBMIT PLANS AND JUSTIFICATION FOR NEW CHANCELLERY LEASE. END SUMMARY.

2. LOCATION. EMBASSY IS NOW SITUATED ON FOURTH FLOOR OF BANK OF COMMERCE BUILDING WITH RESIDENTIAL APARTMENTS ABOVE IT. BUILDING IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC 16 HOURS PER DAY. ALL TENANTS HAVE KEYS ALLOWING 24-HOUR ACCESS. BUILDING IS OWNED BY THE TANZANIAN GOVERNMENT AND WE HAVE NO INFLUENCE ON WHO ARE OUR NEIGHBORS ABOVE, BELOW OR BEHIND.

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3. ACCESS TO CHANCELLERY: A CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION FOR THE AREA BETWEEN THE BUILDING ELEVATOR AND THE MAIN ENTRANCE TO THE CHANCELLERY HAS BEEN REQUESTED. THIS WILL PERMIT THE SINGLE MARINE SECURITY GUARD ON DUTY (ALWAYS IN CIVILIAN CLOTHES) TO MONITOR THE FOYER AND PERMIT HIM TO IDENTIFY PERSONS SEEKING ENTRY INTO THE CHANCELLERY OUTSIDE NORMAL DUTY HOURS PRIOR TO UNLOCKING THE DOOR, SUPPLEMENTING THE PRESENT PEEP HOLE. ACCESS TO THE SUBSTANTIVE AND COMMUNICATIONS SECTION OF THE EMBASSY IS UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF MARINE SECURITY GUARD THROUGH A CIPHER LOCK OPERATED METAL DOOR. A SECOND DOOR TO THIS AREA USED PRINCIPALLY BY THE AMBASSADOR AS AN ALTERNATE ENTRANCE IS SECURED BY A YALE LOCK AND BARRED WHEN NOT IN USE. REQUEST HAS BEEN MADE TO THE REGIONAL TECHNICAL CENTER FOR INSTALLATION OF CONTACT SWITCHES, CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION AND MOTION DETECTORS TO REINFORCE SECURITY OF THIS AREA.

4. CONSULAR SECTION: PUBLIC WAITING AREA IS IN SIGHT OF SECURITY GUARD. ACCESS TO AMERICAN PERSONNEL IS THROUGH SEPARATE DOOR, ALWAYS LOCKED. ACCESS TO CONSULAR SECTION LOCALS FROM WAITING AREA IS IN SIGHT OF SECURITY GUARD. PHYSICAL LIMITATIONS OF PRESENT QUARTERS DO NOT ALLOW IMPROVEMENT OF THIS SITUATION.

5. ADMINISTRATIVE SECTION: SINGLE AMERICAN IN THIS SECTION, ADMIN OFFICER, IS LOCATED AMONG LOCAL PERSONNEL IN CORRIDOR, ACCESS TO WHICH IS IN SIGHT OF SECURITY GUARD BUT BEYOND HIS EFFECTIVE CONTROL. THIS REGRETTABLY NOT POSSIBLE TO REMEDY IN PRESENT QUARTERS.

6. GSO, USIS, AID: THESE COMPONENTS OF MISSION ARE IN THREE SEPARATE LOCATIONS OUTSIDE CHANCELLERY. ABSENCE OF SECURITY GUARD POSTS AND SUBSTANTIAL VISITOR FLOW PRECLUDE REALLY SATISFACTORY DEFENSE EFFORT. WE HAVE TRIED TO LESSEN THEIR VULNERABILITY BY CAREFUL SELECTION OF OFFICE LOCATIONS FOR AMERICAN PERSONNEL AND INSTALLATION OF LOCKS BUT HAVE NO ILLUSIONS ABOUT THEIR INVULNERABILITY.

7. NEW CHANCELLERY: OUR PLANNING FOR NEW QUARTERS WILL ADEQUATELY REFLECT INCREASED SPACE REQUIREMENT IN ORDER TO SEPARATE AMERICANS FROM LOCAL PERSONNEL AND PROVIDE OUR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SECURITY GUARD AND NCOIC WITH REAL POSITION OF CONTROL. WE EXPECT A DOUBLING OF SPACE REQUIREMENTS IN SOME SECTIONS TO LESSEN VULNERABILITY OF PUBLIC ACCESS AREAS INCLUDING THE CONSULAR SECTIONS AND COMMERCIAL LIBRARY, NOW INTERMIXED WITH PUBLIC WAITING ROOM AND LOCAL EMPLOYEES. WE WILL CONTINUE TO DRAW ON ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE OF RSO AND TSO AS THIS PROCESS GOES FORWARD.

CARTER

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